Sept 2021

CE Marking – EU Directives, Regulations and Cables

The Construction Products Regulation (CPR)

The inclusion of EN50575:2014, "*Power, control and communication cables - Cables for general applications in construction works subject to reaction to fire requirements*", in the Official Journal (2015/C 378/03) meant that the CPR directive (EU 2011/205/) also applied to all power, communication and control cables that are permanently installed or "fixed" into a building construction from the 1st July 2017.

This means that all these products must be CE marked and have a relevant Declaration of Performance (DoP) detailing its essential performance characteristics. The levels of performance of cables (i.e. reaction to fire) required in buildings are specified per National regulations or wiring codes.

Leviton's communications cables (both optical and copper cables) for structured wiring installations in buildings are all "CE" marked under the CPR.

Where a cable is required to comply against CPR, the primary CE mark will be against this directive.

For more information (and for copies of Declarations of Performance) go to www.levitonemea.com

The Low Voltage Directive (LVD)

The new LVD (2014/35/EU) repealed the previous directive (2006/95/EC) in April 2016. The scope of the directive is unchanged: "*The Directive applies to all electrical equipment designed for use with a voltage rating of between 50 and 1000 V for alternating current and between 75 and 1500 V for direct current. Voltage ratings refer to the voltage of the electrical input or output, not to voltages that may appear inside the equipment.*"

Leviton self certifies its products to the LVD in accordance with "the 'Blue Guide' on implementation of EU product rules 2016". Leviton structured wiring Copper cable products are designed, manufactured and tested in-house against harmonised standards, i.e. the EN50288 and EN50441 product standards and EN50289 and EN50290 test standards, and thereby the products fully comply with the requirements of the Low Voltage Directive (LVD) 2014/35/EC.

A Declaration of Conformity (DoC) accompanies the CE marking for the relevant copper cable where the LDV applies.

Leviton's structured wiring Copper cables are "CE" marked against the LVD.

Network Solutions Global Headquarters
Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.
2222 222nd Street S.E., Bothell, WA 98021, USA
(800) 722 2082 / +1 (425) 486 2222
leviton.com/ns

Network Solutions European Headquarters
Leviton Manufacturing UK Limited
Viewfield Industrial Estate, Glenrothes, KY6 2RS, UK
+44 (0) 1592 772124
leviton.com/ns/emea

The Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMCD)

The latest Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMCD) 2014/30/EU was published in the Official Journal (OJ) in 2014 repealing previous versions of the EMCD and it has been applicable from April 2016.

Cables and cabling are specifically excluded from the EMCD because they are 'inherently benign' in terms of electro-magnetic compatibility.

Equipment is considered 'inherently benign' in terms of electromagnetic compatibility if:

• *its inherent physical characteristics are such that it is incapable of generating or contributing to electromagnetic emissions which exceed a level allowing radio and telecommunications equipment and other equipment to operate as intended; and,*
• *it will operate without unacceptable degradation in the presence of the electromagnetic disturbance normally present in its intended environment.*
Both conditions need to be met to classify equipment as inherently benign.

The EMCD does **not** apply to communications cables manufactured by Leviton.

NB: the guidance notes on the EMCD do advise that *"manufacturers should be aware that the characteristics and installation of cables and cabling can have a significant impact upon the EMC performance of equipment".* This is a cautionary note. The statement is true, if cables are included in equipment tests, or in installations subject to EMI. Care should be taken to choose those cables appropriately.

CE Marking
CE marking is a passport that enables a product, irrespective of its origin, to be legally placed on the market of EEA member states**.** It means that a product meets certain minimum standards for health, safety and economy of energy. It is ***NOT*** a quality mark. The difference between a quality mark and the CE mark is that the certification system upon which quality marks operate is determined by the legal owner of that quality mark. With a CE mark, it represents a common approach to conformity that is recognised in all countries making up the EEA.

Kennedy Miller
Technology and Sustainability Manager
Leviton Manufacturing UK Ltd
Sept 2021